

# **BRIGADIER GENERAL CHARLES E. PETRARCA, JR**

## **Land Component Commander, Rhode Island National Guard**



Brigadier General Charles E. Petrarca, Jr. assumed his duties as The Land Component Commander on 2 June 2012.

General Petrarca has served in a variety of command and staff positions during his career. He received his commission through the Rhode Island Military Academy OCS Class of 25 in 1982. Prior to receiving his commission General Petrarca's military career began in 1980, when he enlisted in the USAR, as an infantryman for the 76th DIV. After attending Infantry Officer Basic and serving as a company training officer, BG Petrarca transferred to the RIARNG Troop D 1st 26<sup>th</sup> Infantry Division air cavalry. Most recently, General Petrarca served as the Detention Facility Commander, responsible for the safe, care, custody and control of detainees within the Detention Facility in Parwan (DFIP),

Bagram Airfield, Afghanistan. General Petrarca was directly responsible to the Commanding General, Combined Joint Interagency Task Force (CJIATF) 435 for all matters pertaining to the health, welfare, training, discipline and combat readiness of over 1400 Soldiers, Sailors and Airmen assigned to Task Force Protector.

### **EDUCATION:**

1981 New England Institute of Technology, Associates in Science, Electronics Technology, Providence RI

1994 Roger Williams University, Bachelors of Science, Industrial Technology, Bristol, RI

2002 Bryant University, Masters in Business and Administration Operations and Technology Management, Smithfield, RI

2004 US Army War College, Strategic Studies, Carlisle, PA

### **ASSIGNMENTS:**

1. August 1982 – May 1985, Training Officer, C, 3d BN 76<sup>th</sup> DIV IN
2. October 1985 - October 1986, Ground Scout Platoon Leader Troop D 1/26 ID Air Cavalry

3. March 1986 – September 1987, Army Aviation School
4. September 1987 – September 1988, Attack Helicopter Platoon Leader, 1/126<sup>th</sup> AVN
5. September 1988 – November 1991, Attack Company Commander, 1/126 AVN Attack
6. November 1991 – January 1994, HSC Commander, 1/126 AVN Attack
7. January 1994 – July 1994, Asst S-3, 1/126<sup>th</sup> AVN (LUH)
8. July 1994 - January 1997, S-3, 1/126<sup>th</sup> AVN (LUH)
9. January 1997 – July 2000, Executive Officer, 1/126 AVN (LUH)
10. July 2000 – January 2003, Battalion Commander, 1/126 AVN (CSAB)
11. January 2003 – July 2003, AVN DIV Commander, HQ STARC
12. July 2003 – July 2004, US Army War College
13. July 2004 – January 2005, Senior Guard Advisor, Afghanistan
14. January 2005 – October 2006, Executive Officer 56<sup>th</sup> Troop Command
15. October 2006 – November 2009, Commander 56<sup>th</sup> Troop Command
16. November 2009 – August 2010, G3, RIARNG
17. August 2010 – April 2011, Commander, 43<sup>d</sup> MP Brigade, RIARNG
18. April 2011 – March 2012, Commander, Task Force Protector, Afghanistan
19. June 2012 to present, Land Component Commander, RING

## **FLIGHT INFORMATION:**

Rating: Pilot

Flight Hours: More than 1700

Aircraft flown: UH-1H, OH-58, AH-1, OH-6

## **AWARDS AND DECORATIONS:**

Legion of Merit

Bronze Star Medal with 1 Bronze Oak Leaf Cluster

Meritorious Service Medal with 1 Bronze Oak Leaf Cluster

Army Commendation Medal with 1 Bronze Oak Leaf Cluster

Army Achievement Medal with 1 Bronze Oak Leaf Cluster

Army Reserve Component Achievement Medal with 1 Silver Oak Leaf Cluster and 3 Bronze Oak Leaf Clusters

National Defense Medal with Bronze Service Star

Afghanistan Campaign Medal with 2 Campaign Stars

Global War on Terrorism Expeditionary Medal

Global War on Terrorism Service Medal

Armed Forces Reserve Medal with Gold Hourglass Device and M Device with Numeral 2

Army Service Ribbon

Army Reserve Component Overseas Training Ribbon with Numeral 2

NATO Medal

The Rhode Island Star Medal

Rhode Island National Guard Defense Service Medal 1 Bronze Oak Leaf Cluster

Rhode Island National Guard Service Medal with Eagle Device

Rhode Island National Guard Emergency Ribbon  
Rhode Island National Guard Recruiting Ribbon with Oak Leaf Cluster  
Senior Army Aviator Badge  
Parachutist Badge  
German Armed Forces Parachutist Badge

**EFFECTIVE DATES OF PROMOTION:**

Second Lieutenant 2 August 1982  
First Lieutenant 28 August 1985  
Captain 15 November 1988  
Major 27 September 1994  
Lieutenant Colonel 7 August 2000  
Colonel 27 September 2006  
Brigadier General 21 September 2010

(Current as of July 2012)